



ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES



Superintendent
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A MESSAGE TO DEPOSITORY LIBRARIANS AT YEAR'S END

As we approach the final days of 1987, I want to update you on recent developments in our newest area of activity, the Information Technology Program (ITP). You will recall that Public Printer Ralph E. Kennickell, Jr., established the ITP last June "to test the feasibility and practicality of disseminating government publications to Depository Libraries in electronic formats." The Public Printer included a request for \$800,000 in the GPO budget submission for fiscal year 1988 to fund "pilot projects." At the same time, Ms. Jan Erickson was appointed ITP Manager and commenced laying the groundwork for our entry into this exciting new area.

As events later unfolded, it became less and less likely that the \$800,000 would be forthcoming. Hence, the Public Printer was faced with a considerable challenge: How to undertake electronic information delivery testing with depository libraries during fiscal 1988 with no additional funds?

I am pleased to announce that a plan for meeting this challenge has been developed and approved by the Public Printer. Under this plan, GPO intends to enlist the cooperation of non-government information service providers for the delivery of online information services to selected depository libraries in a test mode. A public meeting for representatives of industry will be held at GPO early in 1988; meeting announcements will appear in Commerce Business Daily and Administrative Notes. Instructions and applications for depository libraries' participation will also be published soon in Administrative Notes.

The New Year portends a dynamic and progressive future for all of us in the Depository Library Program. I look forward to the ongoing development of the Program, with improved operations and expanded services. I also look forward to the continuance of our traditional, cooperative partnership with depository librarians in service to the American public.

Sincerely,

DONALD E. FOSSEDAL
Superintendent of Documents





